

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

### **Listing of Claims:**

1.     **(Previously Presented)**     An eyeglass retainer configured to retain an eyeglass in a desired position on the body of a user, the eyeglass retainer comprising:
  - a cord having a first end and a second end;
  - first means coupled to the first end of the cord for selectively coupling to one of (i) a first temple of an eyeglass; and (ii) a first earpiece coupled to the first temple of the eyeglass; and
  - second means coupled to the second end of the cord for selectively coupling to one of (i) a second temple of an eyeglass; and (ii) a second earpiece coupled to the second temple of the eyeglass, wherein each of the first and second means for selectively coupling comprises a hollow member configured to receive an eyeglass earpiece therein, wherein an opening extends through the hollow member, the opening comprising:
    - (A)     a hole extending through the hollow member; and
    - (B)     a slit extending through the hollow member, the slit being oriented adjacent the hole.
2.     **(Previously Presented)**     An eyeglass retainer as recited in claim 1, wherein the first means for selectively coupling; and the second means for selectively coupling comprise a first and second connector, respectively.

3.     **(Previously Presented)**     An eyeglass retainer as recited in claim 2, wherein each of the openings is an expandable opening.
4.     **(Original)**     An eyeglass retainer as recited in claim 1, wherein adhesive connects the first and second ends of the cord to respective first and second connectors.
5.     **(Original)**     An eyeglass retainer as recited in claim 1, wherein the eyeglass retainer retains an eyeglass on the head of a wearer.
6.     **(Original)**     An eyeglass retainer as recited in claim 1, wherein the eyeglass retainer suspends an eyeglass from the neck of a wearer.
7.     **(Previously Presented)**     An eyeglass retainer as recited in claim 1, wherein each means for coupling is non-integrally connected to its corresponding end of the cord.

8. **(Currently Amended)** An eyeglass retainer configured to retain an eyeglass in a desired position on the body of a user, the eyeglass retainer comprising:

- a cord having a first end and a second end;
- a first connector coupled to the first end of the cord; and
- a second connector coupled to the second end of the cord, wherein each of the first and second connectors is configured to selectively couple to one of (i) a temple of an eyeglass; and (ii) an earpiece of said eyeglass, wherein the first connector comprises a hollow member configured to receive an eyeglass earpiece therein, wherein an opening extends through a wall of the hollow member, the hollow member being configured such that the earpiece can be selectively moved from within the hollow member through the opening such that the temple of the eyeglass is mounted within the opening, wherein the hollow member grips the earpiece when the earpiece is mounted within the hollow member and grips the temple when the temple is mounted within the opening, wherein the opening has a plurality of different portions, wherein the plurality of different portions include a hole and a slit adjacent to the hole.

9. **(Cancelled)**

10. **(Previously Presented)** An eyeglass retainer configured to retain an eyeglass in a desired position on the body of a user, the eyeglass retainer comprising:
- a cord having a first end and a second end;
  - a first connector coupled to the first end of the cord; and
  - a second connector coupled to the second end of the cord, wherein the first connector has:
    - (i) a hollow chamber configured to receive an eyeglass earpiece therein; and
    - (ii) an opening communicating with the hollow chamber, the opening configured such that the eyeglass earpiece can be selectively moved from the chamber through the opening such that a temple of the eyeglass is mounted within the opening, wherein the opening has a hole having a slit adjacent thereto.
11. **(Previously Presented)** An eyeglass retainer as recited in claim 10, wherein the second connector has:
- (i) a hollow chamber configured to receive an eyeglass earpiece therein; and
  - (ii) an opening communicating with the hollow chamber, the opening configured such that the eyeglass earpiece can be selectively moved from the chamber through the opening such that a temple of the eyeglass is mounted within the opening, wherein the opening comprises a hole having a slit adjacent thereto.
12. **(Previously Presented)** An eyeglass retainer as recited in claim 10, wherein the slit communicates with the hole, such that the slit expands as an earpiece extends through the hole.

13.     **(Original)**     An eyeglass retainer as recited in claim 10, wherein the eyeglass retainer is configured such that the retainer connectors selectively grip at least one of: (i) first and second earpieces of an eyeglass; and (ii) first and second temples of an eyeglass.

14. **(Previously Presented)** An eyeglass retainer configured to retain an eyeglass in a desired position on the body of a user, the eyeglass having an eyeglass frame comprising a first temple, a first earpiece coupled to the first temple, a second temple, and a second earpiece coupled to the temple, the eyeglass retainer comprising:

a cord having a first end and a second end;

a first connector coupled to the first end of the cord; and

a second connector coupled to the second end of the cord, wherein each of the first and second connectors has:

(i) a tubular wall defining a hollow chamber configured to receive an eyeglass earpiece therein; and

(ii) an opening extending through the tubular wall, the opening comprising:

(A) a hole extending through the tubular wall; and

(B) a slit extending through the tubular wall, the slit being oriented adjacent the hole.

15. **(Original)** An eyeglass retainer as recited in claim 14, wherein the slit and the hole are in communication with each other.

16. **(Original)** An eyeglass retainer as recited in claim 14, wherein the slit expands as an earpiece that is larger than the hole extends through the opening.

17. **(Previously Presented)** An eyeglass retainer configured to retain an eyeglass in a desired position on the body of a user, the eyeglass having an eyeglass frame comprising a first temple, a first earpiece coupled to the first temple, a second temple, and a second earpiece coupled to the temple, the eyeglass retainer comprising:

a cord having a first end and a second end;

a first connector coupled to the first end of the cord; and

a second connector coupled to the second end of the cord, wherein each of the first and second connectors has:

- (i) a tubular wall defining a hollow chamber configured to receive an eyeglass earpiece therein;
- (ii) a hole extending through the tubular wall; and
- (iii) a slit extending through the tubular wall.

18. **(Previously Presented)** A retainer as recited in claim 17, wherein the slit communicates with the hole such that the slit expands as an earpiece that is larger than the hole that extends through the opening.

19. **(Previously Presented)** An eyeglass retainer as recited in claim 17, wherein the slit and the hole are in communication with each other.

20. **(Previously Presented)** An eyeglass retainer as recited in claim 17, wherein the slit expands as an earpiece that is larger than the hole extends through the opening.

21. **(Currently Amended)** An eyeglass retainer configured to retain an eyeglass in a desired position on the body of a user, the eyeglass retainer comprising:

- a cord having a first end and a second end;
- a first connector coupled to the first end of the cord; and
- a second connector coupled to the second end of the cord, wherein the first connector is configured: (i) to selectively receive and retain a temple of an eyeglass; and (ii) to selectively receive and retain an earpiece of said eyeglass, wherein the first connector has (A) a hollow member configured to receive an eyeglass earpiece therein; and (B) an opening communicating with a chamber of the hollow member such that the eyeglass earpiece can be selectively moved from the chamber of the hollow member through the opening such that a temple of the eyeglass is mounted within the opening, the first connector gripping the earpiece when the earpiece is mounted in the chamber and the first connector gripping the temple when the temple is mounted within the opening, wherein the opening has a plurality of distinct portions that are adjacent to each other, each of the distinct portions having a different configuration, wherein the portions of the opening include: (i) a hole; and a (ii) a slit adjacent to the hole.



22. **(Previously Presented)** A method for retaining an eyeglass in a desired position on the body of a user, the eyeglass having first and second temples and first and second earpieces coupled to respective temples, the method for retaining the eyeglass comprising:

providing an eyeglass retainer comprising:

a cord having a first end and a second end;

a first connector coupled to the first end of the cord; and

a second connector coupled to the second end of the cord, wherein each of the

first and second connectors is configured (i) to selectively receive and retain a

temple of the eyeglass; and (ii) to selectively receive and retain an earpiece of said eyeglass; and

inserting first and second earpieces of an eyeglass into respective first and second connectors of the eyeglass retainer, wherein each of the first and second connectors has a hole therein and a slit therein adjacent to the hole.

23. **(Previously Presented)** A method as recited in claim 22, further comprising selectively moving the first and second temples of the eyeglass through respective openings in the first and second connectors.

24. **(Canceled)**

25. **(Previously Presented)** A retainer as recited in claim 21, wherein each of the first and second connectors has a hole therein and a slit therein adjacent to the hole.

26. **(Canceled)**